

Censorship Quiz

- | | |
|---|---|
| ___ 1. Leaves of Grass | a. A satire on courts, political parties, and statesmen, it was denounced on all sides as wicked and obscene. |
| ___ 2. Little Black Sambo | b. Series characterized as “a masterpiece of satanic deception” in December 2001 book burning in Alamogordo, New Mexico. |
| ___ 3. Daddy’s Roommate | c. Plato suggested expurgating Homer for immature readers. |
| ___ 4. Sylvester and the Magic Pebble | d. After 3 years of being the most challenged book in the country, in 2009 it fell to #2. |
| ___ 5. The Merchant of Venice | e. Although all the people in this book are portrayed as animals, only the police were offended. |
| ___ 6. In the Middle of the Night | f. Brattleboro graduate student provided expert witnesses linking wrestling books to promoting violence in children. |
| ___ 7. And Tango Makes Three | g. The town of Cheshire, CT was torn apart by the library’s decision to add this book set in the town. |
| ___ 8. For Whom the Bell Tolls | h. When this 1855 book of poems was published, it was banned in Boston by the Society for the Suppression of Vice. |
| ___ 9. Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone, and its sequels | i. Rutland woman challenged this picture book and fought to cut the ALA Library Bill of Rights from library policy in 1995. |
| ___ 10. Bridge to Terabithia | j. The Council on Interracial Books for Children requested this book be removed entirely from open shelves. |
| ___ 11. It’s Perfectly Normal | k. This Katherine Paterson book is number 9 on the list of the 100 most frequently challenged books from 1990-2000. |
| ___ 12. Gulliver’s Travels | l. A Lewiston, Maine woman refused to return this book in 2007 to keep it out of circulation. |
| ___ 13. The Odyssey | m. Eliminated from New York high schools because of believed anti-Semitism. |
| ___ 14. In the Ring with Bret Harte | n. Opposition to this novel prevented the Pulitzer Prize from being awarded in 1940. |

The idea for the Censorship Quiz was taken from one developed by the Book and Periodical Development Council of Canada and printed in “Emergency Librarian,” as printed in *Censorship*:

A Guide for Successful Workshop Planning. The quiz was revised in 2010 to incorporate more recent history.

Answers: 1H, 2J, 3I, 4E, 5M, 6G, 7D, 8N, 9B, 10K, 11L, 12A, 13C, 14F

Banned Books Week
September 25–October 2, 2010
Celebrating the Freedom to Read

The *10 Most Challenged Books of 2009* reflect a range of themes. The books are:

1. *TTYL; TTFN; L8R, G8R* (series), by Lauren Myracle

Reasons: Nudity, Sexually Explicit, Offensive Language, Unsuitable to Age Group, Drugs

2. *And Tango Makes Three*, by Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson

Reasons: Homosexuality

3. *The Perks of Being A Wallflower*, by Stephen Chbosky

Reasons: Homosexuality, Sexually Explicit, Anti-Family, Offensive Language, Religious Viewpoint, Unsuitable to Age Group, Drugs, Suicide

4. *To Kill A Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee

Reasons: Racism, Offensive Language, Unsuitable to Age Group

5. *Twilight* (series) by Stephenie Meyer

Reasons: Sexually Explicit, Religious Viewpoint, Unsuitable to Age Group

6. *Catcher in the Rye*, by J.D. Salinger

Reasons: Sexually Explicit, Offensive Language, Unsuitable to Age Group

7. *My Sister's Keeper*, by Jodi Picoult

Reasons: Sexism, Homosexuality, Sexually Explicit, Offensive Language, Religious Viewpoint, Unsuitable to Age Group, Drugs, Suicide, Violence

8. *The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big, Round Things*, by Carolyn Mackler

Reasons: Sexually Explicit, Offensive Language, Unsuitable to Age Group

9. *The Color Purple*, Alice Walker

Reasons: Sexually Explicit, Offensive Language, Unsuitable to Age Group

10. *The Chocolate War*, by Robert Cormier

Reasons: Nudity, Sexually Explicit, Offensive Language, Unsuitable to Age Group

Taken from the American Library Association web site of the Office of Intellectual Freedom, <http://www.ala.org/oif/>. Viewed July 1, 2010.